U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE Office of the Spokesman

For Immediate Release 2008/862

October 10, 2008

STATEMENT BY SEAN MCCORMACK, SPOKESMAN

President Ahtisaari Awarded Nobel Peace Prize

The United States warmly congratulates President Martti Ahtisaari and commends the Nobel committee for its wise decision to award the Nobel Peace Prize to him. President Ahtisaari has dedicated his life to promoting peace throughout the world. It is deeply gratifying to see his work and achievements honored in this manner.

The United States is especially grateful to President Ahtisaari for his service to the international community as Special Envoy on Kosovo and in facilitating an end to the conflict in Aceh, Indonesia.